image®

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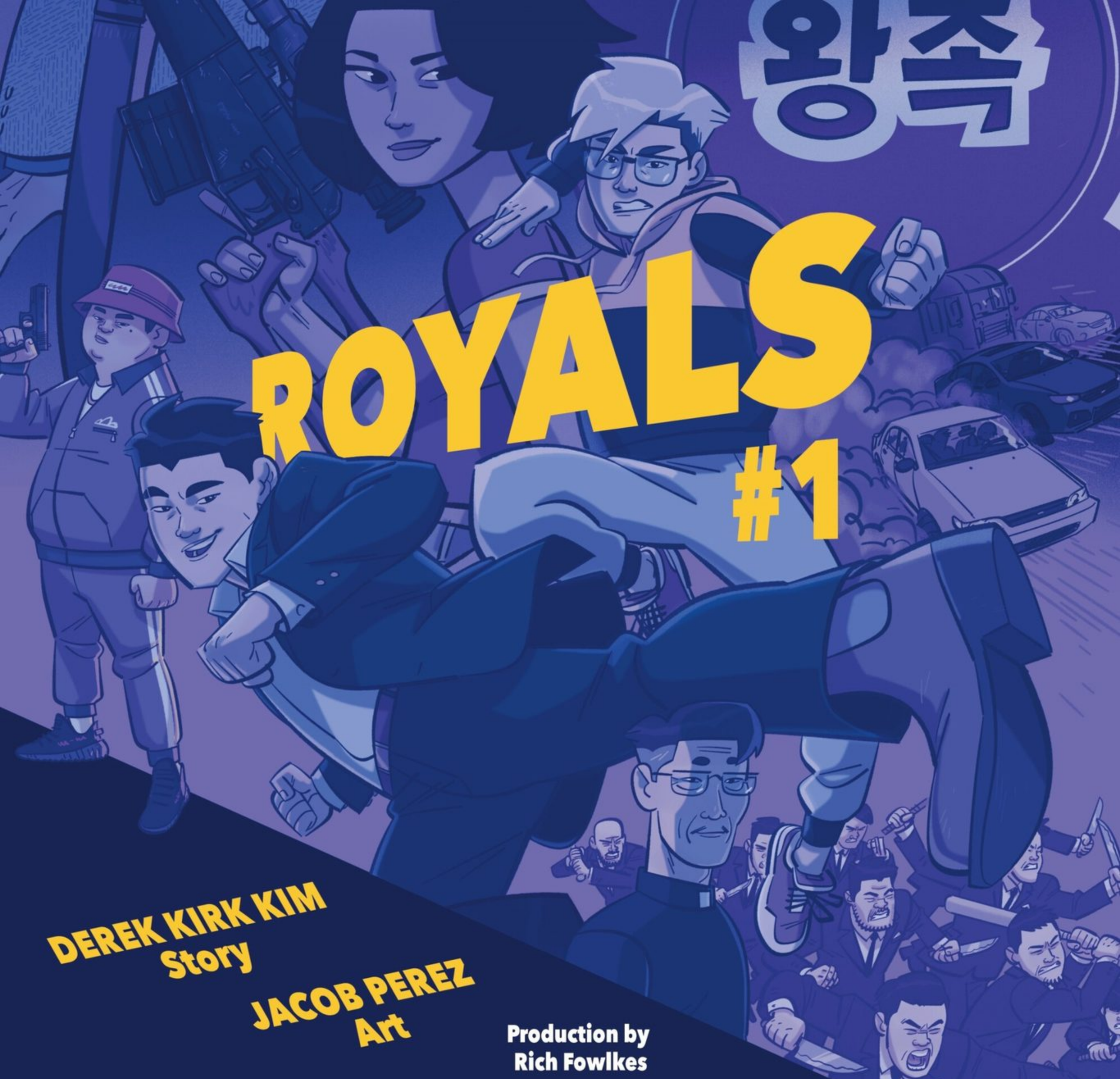
APR

DEREK KIRK KIM

JACOB PEREZ

ROYALS™



DEREK KIRK KIM
Story

JACOB PEREZ
Art

Production by
Rich Fowlkes

Send mail to derekkirkkim@gmail.com and mark "OK to print"

Thank you for picking up the first part of this dream project 8 years in the making! ***ROYALS*** is our love letter to crime caper and action comedy classics like ***Baby Driver***, ***Rounders***, and Jackie Chan films. Filter them through the panel gutters of great crime comics like ***Stray Bullets*** and ***Criminal***, and you have ***ROYALS***. And at the heart of it all, there's the love/hate tug-of-war between two brothers which anyone with siblings can relate to, I think. All crystalized through the magnificent pen of Jacob Perez! It's my incredible honor to be tagging along on Jacob's comic debut, a prodigious talent who is sure to go down in comics history as one of the all-time greats. I am SO excited for comics fans to discover his work in the following pages. Thank you for taking a chance on us. Strap in and hold onto all your chips!

-Derek Kirk Kim

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SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

MAN, I COULD EAT THIS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE. HOW DOES EVERYTHING TASTE SO MUCH BETTER HERE?

THESE AJUMAS* HAVE GOT TO BE PUTTING SOMETHING ILLEGAL INTO THE BROTH.

PAUL, YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT ONE?

YOU'RE MISSING OUT, BRO.

MUNCH

COME ON, MAN, YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE!

*"MIDDLE-AGED WOMEN" IN KOREAN

CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS? LOOK AT US!

FINALLY VISITING THE MOTHERLAND...

SNIF

I FEEL THE HAN POUNDING IN MY CHEST.

BAP

WE WOULDN'T BE HERE IF YOU HADN'T BLOWN ALL OUR MONEY...

MUNCH

SO... YOU'RE WELCOME?

DUDE, THEY'RE STARTING THE PREGAME INTERVIEW IN LIKE FIVE MINUTES!

WE—

COME ON, MAN!!

CASTOR, THIS IS ALL THE MONEY WE HAVE LEFT. PLEASE... DON'T FUCK THIS UP.

<555-0424! CALL ME!>*

GRAND OPEN

*TRANSLATED FROM KOREAN

HEHE...CHECK THIS OUT, THEY PUT ADVERTISEMENTS ON PACKETS OF TISSUES HERE.

DUDE! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!

567-4444

WILL YOU RELAX? LOOK, WE'RE HERE.

THUNDER COVE CASINO

썬더 코브 카지노

WE MADE IT.

PAUL, YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS?

BUURP

YOU?

THOSE PANTS. THEY'RE WAY TOO TIGHT, BRO.

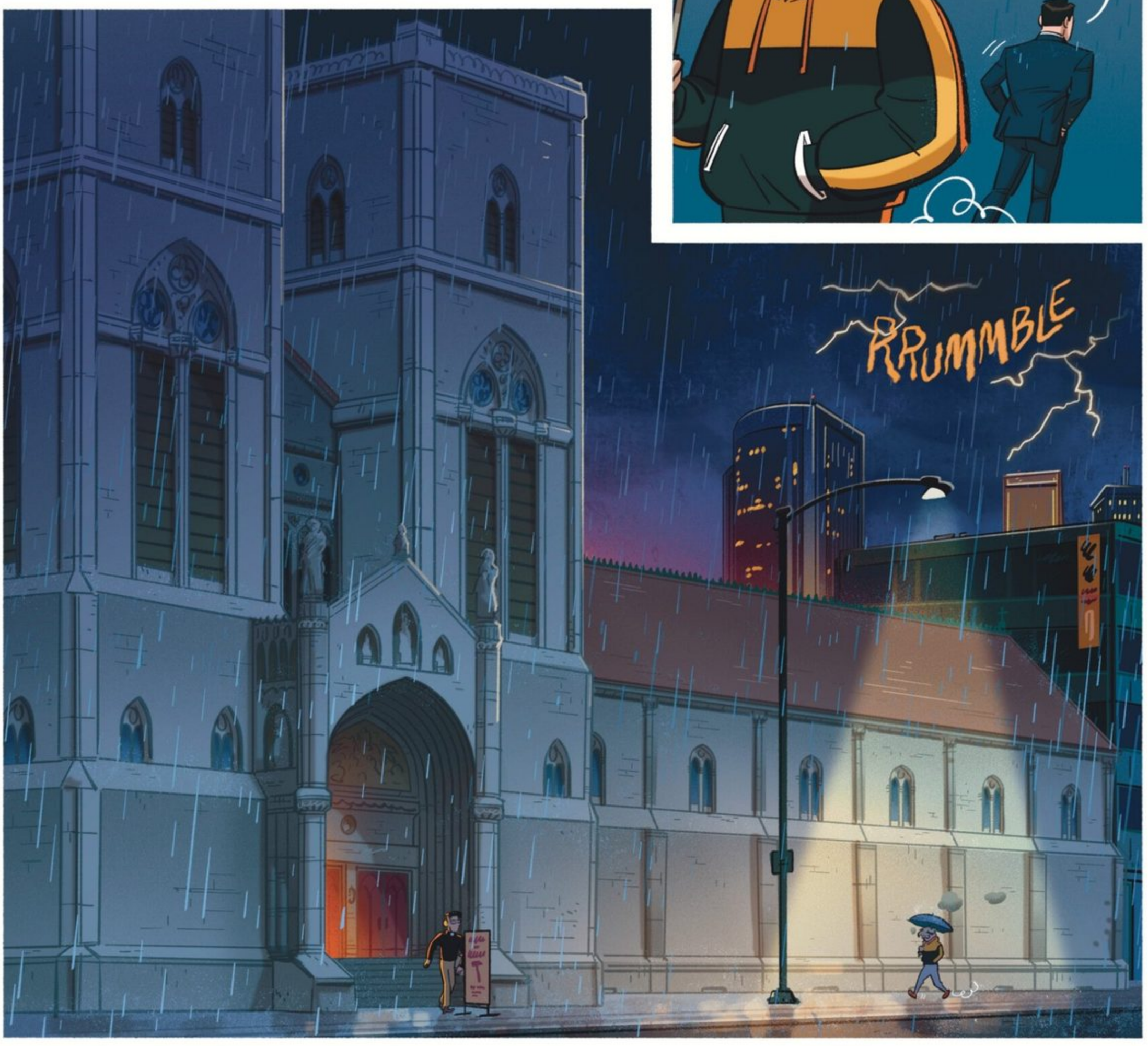
THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T RELAX.

SMAK

GET IN THERE! HURRY UP!

CHINOS, RELAXED FIT. THINK ABOUT IT!

SIGH
♪


RRUMMBLE

!

HEY...

HAMMER of SEPPHORIS
세포리스의 망치
부활절 아침
9:30 AM

OH...
HEY THERE!

HA

ANYONGHASEYO.*

FATHER...
PARK,
RIGHT?

YEAH! IT
WAS PAUL,
WASN'T IT?

HAMA of

THAT'S RIGHT!
HAHA! WHAT A
SMALL WORLD.

IT REALLY IS...
HAHA.

SO... THIS IS
YOUR CHURCH,
HUH?

WELL, IT
BELONGS TO JC.
I JUST MANAGE
THE PLACE.

*"HELLO" IN KOREAN

CASTOR, GUESS WHAT?

I JUST RAN INTO THAT PRIEST WE WERE SITTING NEXT TO ON THE PLANE!

THUNDER COVE CASINO
썬더 코브 카지노

HALLELUJAH.

HEY, DID YOU PACK CONDOMS?

WHAT?

SIGH FOCUS, MAN!

OH, I'M FOCUSING.

<HEY, THAT'S NOT FOR YOU!>

YOINK

SLURRRPP

OH, MY BAD.

<PRICK.>

<HEY, WAIT. YOU FORGOT SOMETHING.>

<$10 IS FOR MINE, $10 IS FOR THE REPLACEMENT AND THE REST IS FOR YOU.>

<OH... THANKS.>

YOINK

THANK YOU.

WINK

<OH MY GOD! CASTOR WAHNG? WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!>

<WE'RE GOING LIVE IN A MINUTE! COME ON!>

SO HOW'RE YOU LIKING SEOUL SO FAR?

OH, IT'S AMAZING JUST TO BE HERE.

I COULD NEVER AFFORD THE TRIP UNTIL RECENTLY...

VKRUUUMMMM

YOU KNOW THOSE THINGS WILL KILL YOU.

HM?

OH. I KNOW, FATHER. I KNOW.

GOT A SPARE?

HEH!

WHAT?

SORRY, I'VE JUST NEVER SEEN A PREACHER SMOKE BEFORE.

JUST DON'T TELL THE POPE...

FLIK

MY LIPS ARE SEALED. HAHA

AHH. THANK YOU, PAUL.

GREAT CATHOLIC NAME, BY THE WAY.

IT'S SHORT FOR POLLUX ACTUALLY.

YIKES! UH, I MEAN! I SEE.

MMER of

MY MOM WAS REALLY INTO GREEK MYTHOLOGY, ALL RIGHT?

HEY, WHATEVER LETS YOU SLEEP AT NIGHT. IT'S ALL GOOD. HAHA

HAHAH...

FUNNY YOU SHOULD SAY THAT. I'VE BEEN HAVING PROBLEMS SLEEPING LATELY.

FLIK

SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU?

SK SN

<WELCOME TO THE 12TH ANNUAL EASTER WEEK POKER TOURNAMENT COMING TO YOU LIVE FROM—>

<THUNDER COVE CASINO!>

LIVE

THUNDER COVE CASINO 썬더코브 카지노

<THE BUY-IN IS 23 MILLION WON FOR A GRAND TOTAL OF 120 MILLION WON TO THE LAST PLAYER STANDING!>

<THAT'S $100,000 US DOLLARS UP FOR GRABS FOR A $20,000 BUY-IN.>

<AND NO SPONSORS HERE, FOLKS, THE PLAYERS ARE PLAYING WITH THEIR OWN MONEY!>

CASTOR WAHNG

<AND WHAT PLAYERS THEY ARE, SOOAH. ONE OF THE HOTTEST RISING STARS IN THE POKER WORLD IS JOINING US THIS YEAR ALL THE WAY FROM LOS ANGELES, CA.>

<THAT'S RIGHT, FOLKS, CASTOR WAHNG, THE FORMER MMA FIGHTER AND PROUD KOREAN AMERICAN WHO BURST ONTO THE POKER SCENE JUST A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO HAS BEEN UNDEFEATED IN HIS FIRST 5 TELEVISED TOURNAMENTS.>

<MINGU, DO YOU THINK HE CAN MAKE IT AN EVEN 6?>

<WITH DAESHIM KANG AT THE TABLE, IT'LL TAKE AN EASTER MIRACLE.>

HAHAHA!!

HAHAHAH!

HEY, GUYS.
MUTTER MUTTER

IT'S GETTING UGLY OUT THERE, HUH?

BEAUTIFUL IN HERE THOUGH, AMIRIGHT?

HAW! THANKS, DAWG.
SPAP

CASTOR, RIGHT? I'M ALEX, MAN.
BAP

I'M FROM LA TOO BACK IN THE DAY. VAN NUYS REPRESENT!!

YO, GOTTA KEEP IT REAL, MAN.
I'M A BIG FAN.

NOT TRYING TO SUCK YO' DICK OR NUT'IN...

BUT DAYAMN THAT WIN AT THE VEGAS TOURNAMENT LAST YEAR WAS FUCKIN' SAVAGE!

YO, DAESHIM!

YOU GOT SOME COMPETITION TONIGHT, BABY!!

THUNDER COVE CASINO

THIS DUDE'S A FUCKIN' WIZARD, MAN!

MOTHAFUCKIN' DUMBLEDORE UP IN THIS BITCH! AH HA!

LOOKS MORE LIKE HERMIONE TO ME.

JAJAJA JAJA!!

HEHE HEH...

HERE...

FWIP

YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT.

DINK

PINK

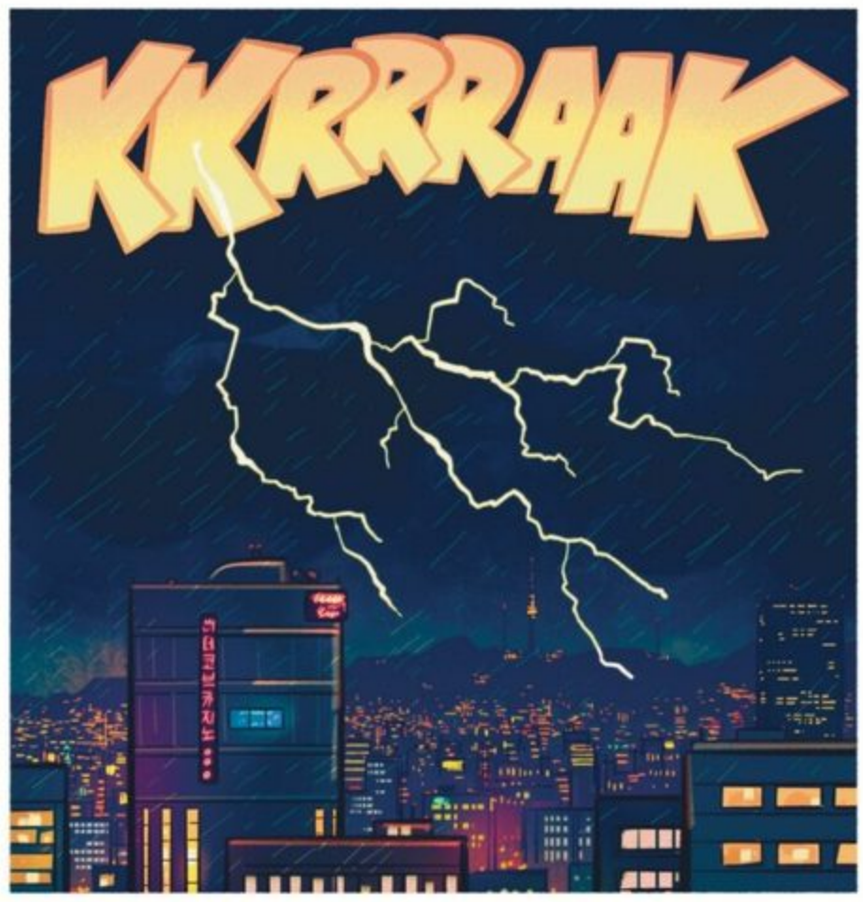
BINK

DINK

JAJAJA JAJA!!!

SNATCH

PINK


KKRRRAAK

WELL... YOU REMEMBER MY BROTHER?
HE WAS SITTING NEXT TO ME ON THE PLANE?
YEAH, OF COURSE.
WELL, WE HAVE A VERY... UNIQUE... CONNECTION. AND I HAVEN'T BEEN HAVING THE MOST BROTHERLY THOUGHTS ABOUT HIM.

OKAY...
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

LET'S JUST SAY... WE FIGHT A LOT. I FEEL LIKE HE'S GOING TO BE THE DEATH OF ME ONE OF THESE DAYS.
HEH...

PUFF

WELL, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. I WISH I HAD YOUR PROBLEM.
HM?

I HAD A BROTHER TOO.

HAD?

HE DIED IN HIS TWENTIES. CAR ACCIDENT...

OH GEEZ... I'M SO SORRY TO HEAR THAT.

SOMETIMES HE VISITS ME IN MY DREAMS.

BUT OF COURSE, HE HASN'T AGED SINCE HE DIED. HE LOOKS LIKE A CHILD TO ME NOW.

IT HURTS TO LOOK AT HIM...

ALL THE DISAGREEMENTS WE HAD BEFORE HE DIED SEEM SO PETTY AND MEANINGLESS NOW...

BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DREAM ABOUT IT, PAUL.

YOU CAN TALK TO YOUR BROTHER.

IN LIFE.

PAUL, THE GAME'S ABOUT TO START. YOU READY?

OH SHI--!

YEAH! GIMME A SEC!

FATHER, I'M SO SORRY. I GOTTA GET GOING.

SURE, SURE. GREAT RUNNING INTO YOU, PAUL!

YOU TOO, FATHER. AND...

<THANK YOU.>

<THANK YOU FOR THE...>

<...INCENSE TO HEAVEN.> ≒CHUCKLE≒

<OH ONE LAST THING, I'M HAVING A PARTY AT MY PLACE HERE EASTER SUNDAY.>

<IT'S CALLED MASS. YOU SHOULD COME.>

<OKAY, UH, I'LL TRY TO MAKE IT.>

<YOU TAKE CARE, PAUL. SAY HI TO YOUR BROTHER FOR ME.>

<...AND HERE'S THE OPENING FLOP.>

LIVE

DING-A-DING-A-DING

<OOO, DAESHIM AND MARGOT MIGHT THINK THEY HAVE A GREAT CHANCE BUT IT'S A LOCK FOR CASTOR.>

<LET'S SEE WHAT DAESHIM DOES HERE ON HIS OPENING BID.>

<OF COURSE, CASTOR'S POCKET QUEENS GIVE HIM A 76% CHANCE TO WIN!>

SK SN

16% KANG

76% WAHNG

8% DOYLE

FOLD

FOLD

$4,000

LIVE

THUNDER COVE CASINO 선더코브 카지노

THE SALMON ARE RUNNING, BRO. REEL 'EM IN.

RAISE.

...

CALL.

YESSS.

<HEY THERE.>

<COULD I GET A LIGHT FOAM RAMOS GIN FIZZ WITH AN EXTRA TWIST?>

<UH, I'LL TAKE WHATEVER'S ON TAP...>

KLINK

CALL.

FWIP

<YOU MIGHT WANT TO RETRIEVE THAT CHIP FROM THE GARBAGE CAN.>

<GO AHEAD. I CAN WAIT.>

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

SCOOP

LET'S DO THIS, BRO.

SK SN

LIVE

THUNDER COVE CASINO 선더코브 카지노

RAISE.

HE'S GOT SHIT.

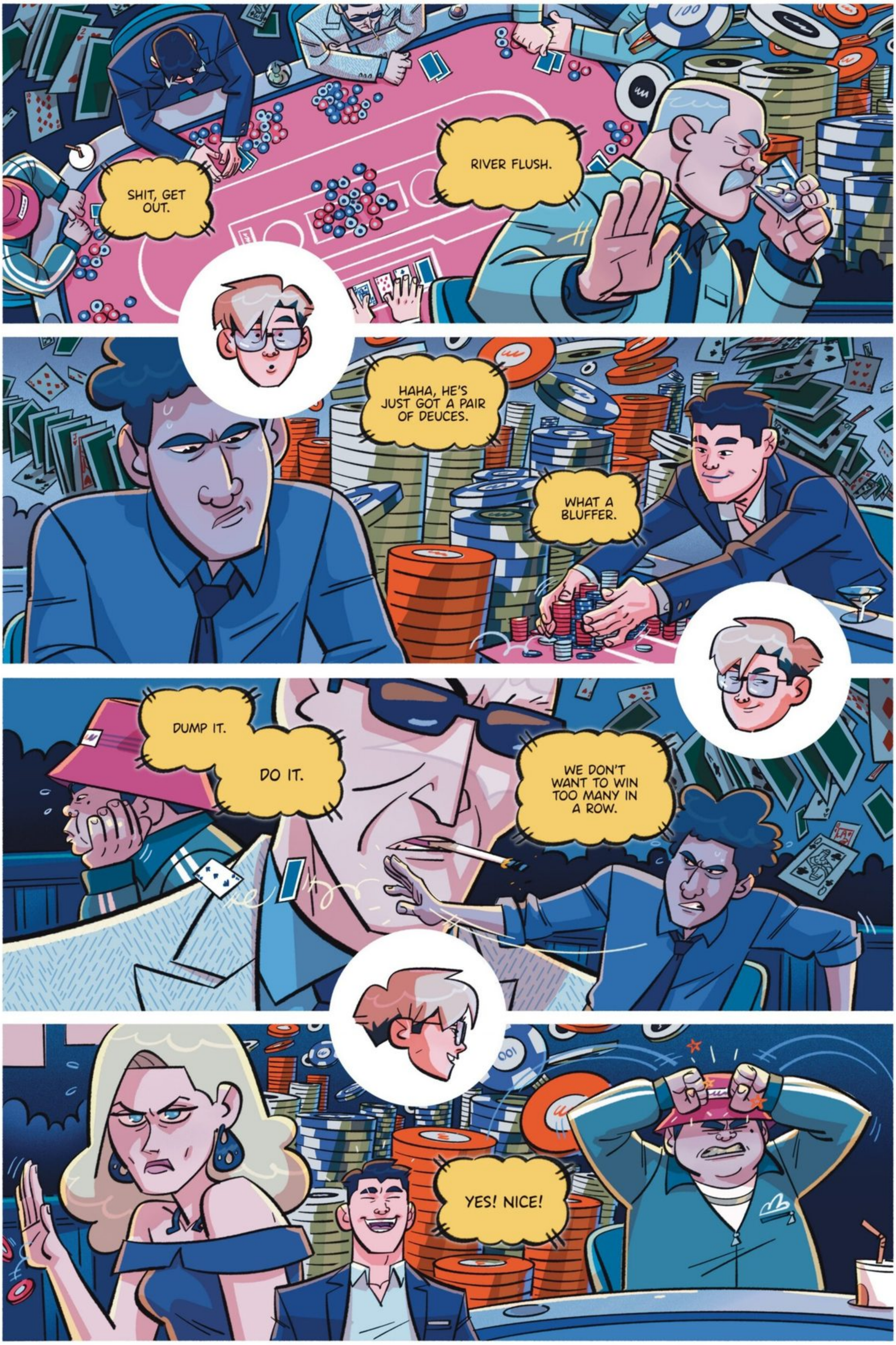
4, 7 OFF SUIT.

CALL HIM.

FOLD, FOLD.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

YES!! FULL HOUSE!


SHIT, GET OUT.
RIVER FLUSH.
HAHA, HE'S JUST GOT A PAIR OF DEUCES.
WHAT A BLUFFER.
DUMP IT.
DO IT.
WE DON'T WANT TO WIN TOO MANY IN A ROW.
YES! NICE!

<AAAND THERE GOES ALEX! IT'S JUST DOWN TO THE TWO KOREANS NOW!>

SK SN

KANG

WAHNG

LIVE

THUNDER COVE CASINO 썬더코브 카지노

<DAMN, THIS KID IS GOOD.>

소주

<HE'S ONE LUCKY BASTARD...>

<OH MAN, LOOK AT THIS, HEAD TO HEAD WITH DAESHIM KANG.>

<THE KID BETTER THROW IN THE TOWEL.>

<$100,000 ISN'T WORTH GETTING YOUR FACE REARRANGED OVER.>

HAHAHA!!

<UH, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?>

<YOU KNOW KANG RUNS THAT CASINO THEY'RE PLAYING IN, RIGHT?>

<UH, NO, I DIDN'T.>

<WELL, IT'S RUMORED HE ALSO RUNS A MOB CALLED THE...>

<...BLOODY COCKS.>

COUGH

<"THE BLOODY COCKS"?>

<SUPPOSEDLY THEY RUN A SECRET COCKFIGHTING RING SOMEWHERE IN THE BOWELS OF THE CASINO.>

SIP

<VICIOUS SONS OF BITCHES.>

<THEY PRACTICALLY RUN THIS GODDAMN CITY.>

<IT'S JUST A RUMOR ABOUT DAESHIM THOUGH.>

<HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A GREAT CUSTOMER IN HERE.>

<HE ORDERS MORE THAN ONE BEER AT LEAST...>

SIP

RRRRRRRRUUMMBLE

YO PAUL, WHERE YOU AT? WHAT'S HE GOT?

OH SORRY! LET ME--

KAKRAAK

CLICK

<OH SHIT...!>

<ARE YOU KIDDING ME?>

<HOLD ON.>

<WE HAVE OUR OWN BACKUP GENERATORS.>

CLIK

CLIK

CLIK

WWWWWRRRRRRRRRRRRRK

PHOOMPH

PHOOMPH

PHOOMPH

CLAP CLAP CLAP

BRO, THERE'S A POWER OUTAGE HERE!

I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!!

SHIT...

HOLD ON! I'M GONNA TRY TO FIND ANOTHER BAR!

FLIP

FWIP

RAISE.

BANG

SHIT!

KKKRAAK

CASTOR, WHAT'S HAPPENING?!

RAISE.

DON'T WORRY, I GOT THIS.

WHAT?

NO NO NO, DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID!

JUST KEEP FOLDING UNTIL I FIND A BAR WITH POWER!

I COULDN'T FIND THE TOURNAMENT STREAMING ANYWHERE ONLINE... ARRGH!

SPSHH

SPLISH

SPLASH

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

COUGH

I'M ALL IN.

GASP
GASP
GASP
GASP

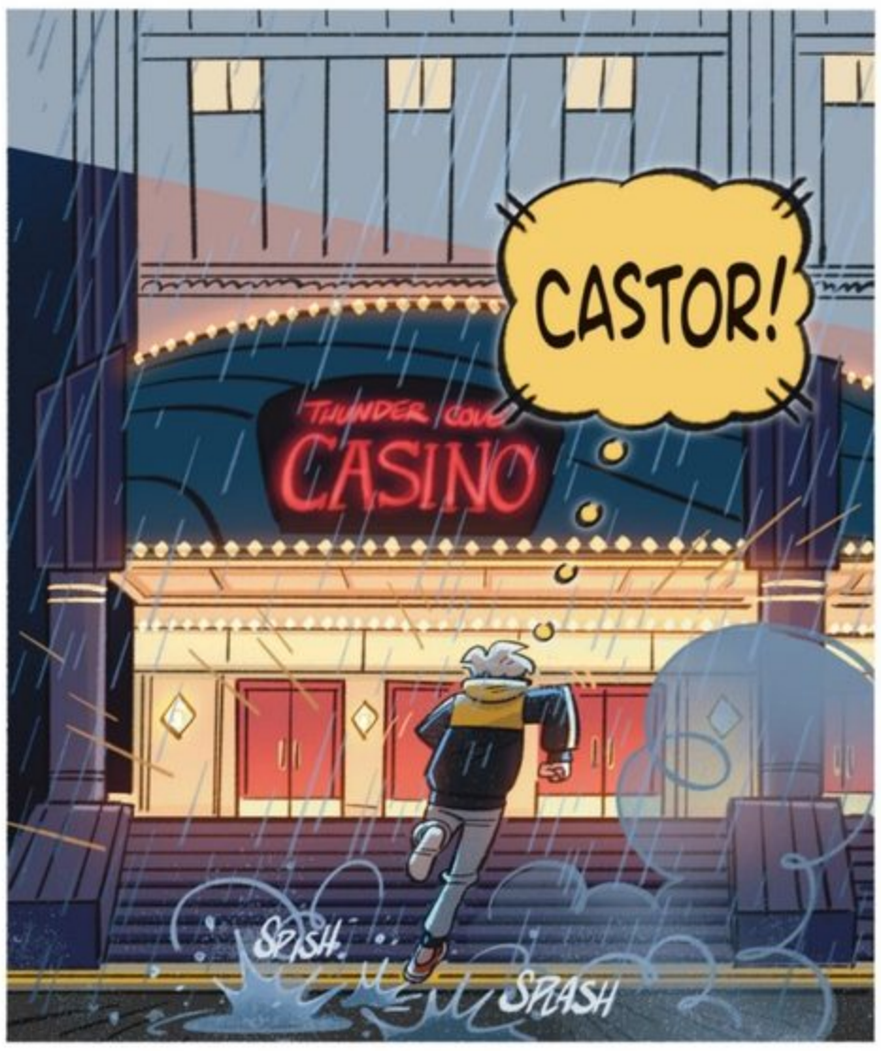
BRO, HE JUST WENT ALL IN.

DON'T CALL--
DON'T FUCKING CALL!!!
SPLISH
SPASH
SPLASH
SPLUSH

THE CASINO...! OF COURSE! HOLD ON, I CAN GET TO A TV IN THE GAMBLING HALL, I'M SURE!
SIT TIGHT. I'VE GOT A GOOD CHANCE HERE.
AND I'VE ALREADY SUNK SO MUCH INTO THE POT...
NO NO NONO!! CASTOR!
DON'T CALL!!!
I'M BEGGING YOU!!

CASTOR DON'T CALL! DO YOU HEAR ME?!!?!
OUT OF MAGIC?

DON'T CALL!!!
PLEASE...


CASTOR!
THUNDER COVE
CASINO
SPLASH
SPLASH

ANSWER ME!!
SPLASH
SPLASH

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
게임

01
BING
DID YOU--

OH NO...
CASTOR... YOU DIDN'T...
OH FUCK...

01

03

BOOM!!!

♫ OPPAN GANGNAM STYLE~~!!

YOU FUCKING ASSHOLE!!
WHOA. BRO, WHAT THE HELL?
WE WON.

YOU FUCKING--
FUCK--

GODDAMN IT, CASTOR! YOU GAMBLED--

YOU GAMBLED EVERYTHING WE HAVE! YOU COULD'VE JUST STALLED UNTIL I GOT TO ANOTHER TV!
THEN WE COULD'VE WON FOR SURE!

WE WON EITHER WAY. WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

WE GOT LUCKY, YOU SON OF A BITCH!

LUCK IS FOR PEOPLE WHO AREN'T TELEPATHICALLY CONNECTED.
EXACTLY! THAT'S WHAT I'M--
GROOOAAANN

MAN, I WISH YOU'D BEEN THERE, BRO! IT WAS GLORIOUS!

CALL.

FLIP
FLIP
FLIP

FLIP

WOOOHH HHOOOO!!! WWWOOOO!!!

THUNDER COVE CASINO 써더코브 카지노

<AND IT'S A FULL HOUSE FOR CASTOR— ON THE RIVER!—OVER DAESHIM'S FLUSH!>

<CASTOR TAKES IT ALL!!>

YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN THE LOOK ON DAESHIM'S FACE!

HAHA! PRICELESS!

HEY.

GULP

<HEY. GOOD GAME. YOU'RE HELL OF A PLAYER.>

<YOU TOO. TOUGH BREAK, MAN.>

<BUT HEY, AT LEAST YOU'RE NOT BROKE.>

FISHED IT OUT OF THE GARBAGE FOR YA.

THE NIGHT IS YOUNG...

BOOP!

GO GET 'EM.

PAT PAT

HEY...

UH, I JUST WANTED TO SAY YOU PLAYED A HELLUVA OF A GAME.

WHOO, THAT FINAL HAND... SUCH A TOUGH BREAK.

I DEFINITELY WOULD'VE GONE ALL IN TOO ON A FLUSH DRAW LIKE THAT.

NICE... MEETING YOU. UH, BIG FAN.

HEY, LOOK AT THAT. POWER'S BACK!
OF COURSE...
LISTEN, YOU AND I HAVE TO TALK...
HEY, WHAT--
YOINK
I GOT YOU A PRESENT.
SHOOP
RUSTLE RUSTLE
LOOK, I EVEN GOT IT ENGRAVED FOR YOU.

SAW THIS CIGARETTE CASE IN A SHOP AND IT MADE ME THINK OF YOU.
P.
W.

AND THESE CRANES MADE ME THINK OF US.

THANKS, MAN...

I LOVE YOU, BRO.

CASTOR, LISTEN... I'VE BEEN THINKING...
MAYBE WE SHOULD GO STRAIGHT BEFORE ALL THIS CONNING AND SCAMMING CATCHES UP WITH US.
I MEAN, THERE'S GOT TO BE MORE TO LIFE, RIGHT?
LIKE, DO YOU EVER THINK ABOUT USING OUR... GIFT... FOR SOMETHING, I DON'T KNOW...

BIGGER THAN OURSELVES?
FLIK

HEY, CONGRATULATIONS! YOU GOT BALLS OF STEEL, MAN!

HAHA, THANKS!

CASTOR, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?

PAUL, I'M ALWAYS LISTENING. I HAVE NO CHOICE. HEH...
LOOK, I GET WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST WE DO? GO BACK TO DOING DISHES AND SHIT FOR $9 AN HOUR AND SELLING CRACK ON THE SIDE?

OR HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING A COLLEGE DEGREE I DON'T KNOW ABOUT?

PUFF

<OH MY GOD!>

<YOU WERE SO AWESOME!>

<JIYUN! HEY!>

<EVERYONE INSIDE IS TALKING ABOUT YOU! ALEX WAS LOSING HIS MIND WHEN YOU FLIPPED OVER THAT LAST...>

WHA- WHO THE HELL IS THIS?

BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH

DUDE, WE GOTTA GET BACK TO THE HOTEL ROOM.

SIGH

OF COURSE. JUST KEEP IT TO YOUR BED, ALL RIGHT? I'M GONNA GO TAKE A WALK.

NO, I REALLY MEAN ***WE***. I TALKED TO HER AND SHE'S DOWN WITH ***BOTH*** OF US!

BLAH BLAH

WHAT?

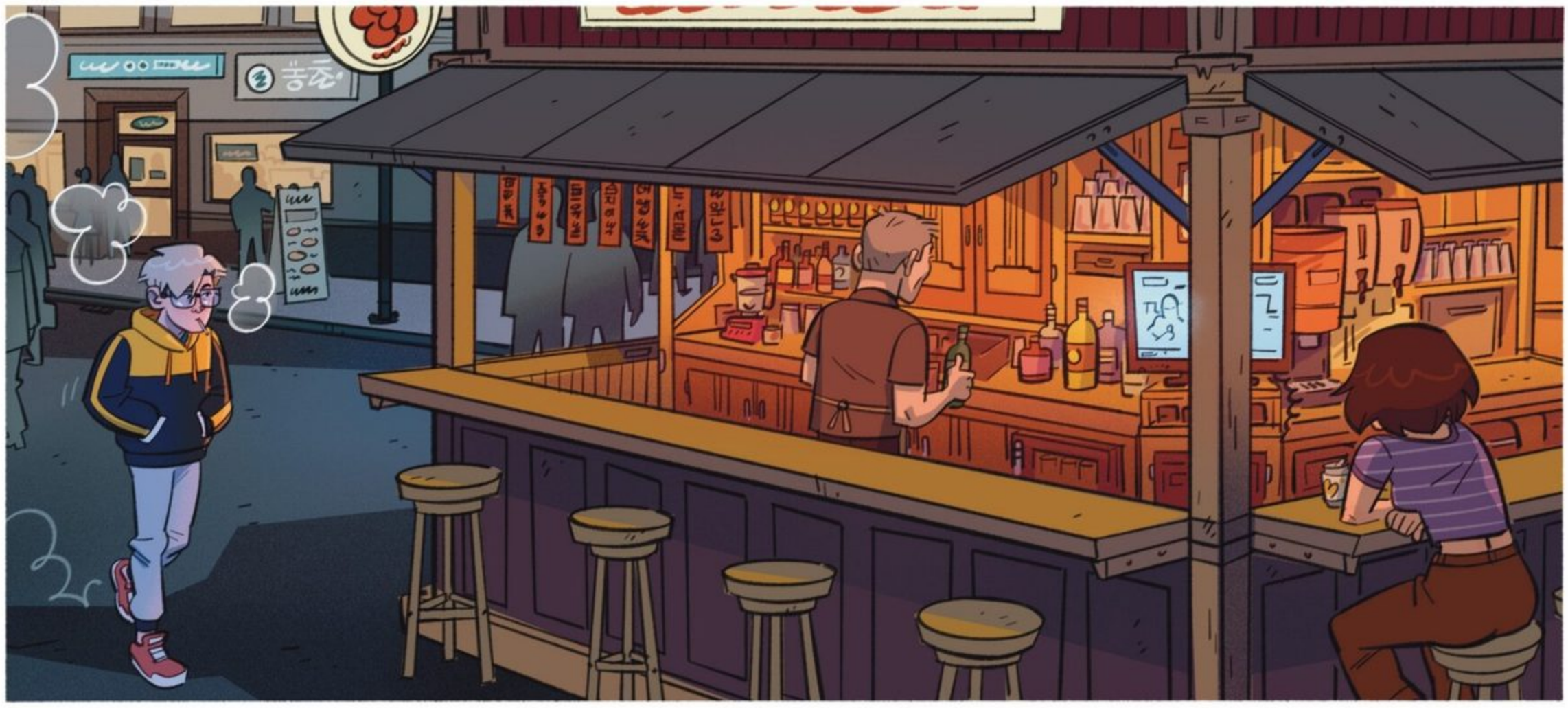
NOT. HAPPENING.

COME ON, BROTHER! KOREAN CENTIPEDE! LET'S DO IT!

BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH

EIFFEL TOWER?

LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'RE DONE.



<HEY. I'LL TAKE A WHISKEY. MAKE IT A DOUBLE.>

<HEY...>
<WHAT'S HE SAYING? MY KOREAN ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR THIS FANCY NEWSCASTER TALK...>
<THAT GUY WAS MISSING FOR HALF A YEAR AND THEY FINALLY FOUND HIM ROTTING IN A DUMPSTER...>
<HE WAS SHOT IN THE CHEST SO...>

07
10
<LOOKS LIKE MURDER...>
<JESUS... WHO DOES THIS STUFF?>

<... LIFE IS JUST A BIG SHIT SANDWICH, AIN'T IT?>

=SCOFF= <WITH VOMIT ON THE SIDE.>

SIP

<SOMETIMES I WISH A COMET WOULD CRASH INTO THE EARTH AND JUST WIPE US OUT ALREADY.>

<RIGHT HERE. RIGHT HERE ON THIS COUNTER.>

THUMP

<COME ON, UNIVERSE! MY BODY IS READY!>

SIP

SLURP

<YOU EVER WONDER HOW YOU'RE GOING TO DIE?>

<THESE ARE SOME STEAMY PICK-UP LINES.>

<I WONDER ABOUT IT ALL THE TIME...>

<LET'S FIND OUT. GIVE ME YOUR HAND.>

<WHAT?>

<I STUDIED PALM READING A LITTLE BIT. JUST FOR FUN.>

<WHOA, SO ROUGH.>

<YEAH, MY BROTHER AND I DABBLED IN MMA.>

<HUH. DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING.>

<WE WERE SICK OF GETTING BULLIED.>

<ANY GOOD?>

<YOU TELL ME.>

<WOW, YOUR LIFE LINE IS CHAOTIC. LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE LIVED QUITE A LIFE ALREADY...>

<I HAVE DRY SKIN IS WHAT I THINK. ANY LOTTERY NUMBERS IN THERE?>

<HMM... NO, BUT YOU'VE GOT A CANCER IN YOUR LIFE...>

<WHAT...?>

<HAVE YOU?>

<IS THERE... SOMETHING...>

<OR SOMEONE KEEPING YOU FROM... HAPPINESS?>

HOTEL
THE PACIFICA
HOTEL
<OHHH CASTOR!>

<WHOOPS! CAREFUL!>
<WHOA. LOOK AT ALL THESE SCARS. FIGHT MUCH?>
<WE DIDN'T EXACTLY GROW UP IN BEVERLY HILLS.>
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
<MMM. YOU SMELL LIKE A NEW CAR.>

<UHH...>

<WHATEVER IT IS, YOU HAVE TO CUT IT OUT FROM YOUR LIFE.>

<DON'T LET IT TAKE YOU DOWN WITH IT.>

<OR IT COULD BE ATHLETE'S FOOT. I'M NOT SURE.>

<UM, COULD WE GET BACK TO SOMETHING MORE CHEERFUL, LIKE MY DEATH?>

<PIRANHAS. DEFINITELY.>

HAHAH

<OKAY, MY TURN.>

<HMM... TURNS OUT YOU'RE IMMORTAL.>

<YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO DIE.>

<DAMN...>

<BUT ON THE PLUS SIDE YOU MEET THIS REALLY COOL DUDE FROM L.A. TONIGHT AND YOU GO GET SOME PHO WITH HIM.>

<COOL DUDE? WHERE?>

<HAHA. OUCH.>

<ANYTHING ELSE?>

<I'M GOOD.>

<ALRIGHT, HERE YOU GO. NO RUSH.>

<HERE. ON ME.>

<SO PHO? WHAT DO YOU SAY?>

<I DON'T KNOW ANYONE HERE...>

<UM...>

<SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT SOME SERIOUS WALLOWING TO DO AT HOME.>

<COME ON, WE CAN BE MISERABLE TOGETHER. I'VE GOT SOME REEEALLY DEPRESSING STORIES.>

<I PROMISE! YOU WON'T REGRET IT.>

<OKAY... BUT YOU MAKE ME LAUGH OR ENJOY MYSELF IN ANY WAY, AND I'M OUT OF THERE.>

<DEAL!>

TO BE CONTINUED...

"Epic. Heart-breaking. Utterly gorgeous. You'll love every panel of this sprawling saga."
–Gene Luen Yang

ON SALE NOW!

COVER BY **JACOB PEREZ**

RATED **M** (MATURE)

"*Royals* is the telepathic-buddy-comedy-crime-caper you've been waiting for! Kim's script bursts with humor and heart, and Perez's art pops with energy and emotion in every panel. Do not miss one of the coolest, most stylish, pure-funnest comics I've read in some time!"
–JORDAN MORRIS
(*Teen Titans Go!*, *Predator: Bloodshed*)

Twin brothers Paul and Castor have crafted the perfect poker hustle using their uncanny telepathic connection. But they might have finally met their match when they risk it all against the leader of the Bloody Cocks, the most ruthless criminal syndicate in Seoul.

Eisner and Harvey Award-winning writer Derek Kirk Kim (*The Last Mermaid*, *Same Difference*) and rising star artist Jacob Perez (*Tales of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*) invite you to the shadowy back alleys of Seoul, South Korea, for a thrilling, mind-bending crime caper unlike any other!

COLLECT ALL THE COVERS!

ZONE